

THE NUMBER OF WEAKLY COMPACT CONVEX SUBSETS OF THE HILBERT SPACE

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ABSTRACT. We prove that for κ an uncountable cardinal, there exist 2^κ many non homeomorphic weakly compact convex subsets of weight κ in the Hilbert space $\ell_2(\kappa)$.

1. INTRODUCTION

The first example of two weakly compact convex subsets of a Hilbert space which have the same uncountable weight but are not homeomorphic is due to Corson and Lindenstrauss [4][5], who provided a nonseparable such set in which all points are G_δ , in contrast with a any closed ball. Examples of two equivalent norms in a nonseparable Hilbert space whose closed balls are not weakly homeomorphic was given in [1]. Later in our joint work with O. Kalenda [2] we developed the technique of fiber orders, inspired on some Shchepin's ideas [6], and we applied it precisely to distinguish topologically a number of weakly compact convex sets in the Hilbert space. We exhibited there a countable family of nonhomeomorphic such spaces of a given weight, and the natural question was posed to us by Gilles Godefroy and Robert Deville about the cardinality of the set of homeomorphism classes of these sets. In this note we show, using again the machinery of fiber orders from [2] that this cardinality is the greatest possible, namely 2^κ many spaces of weight κ , for κ an uncountable cardinal. Let us remind that in the case of $\kappa = \omega$ it is a consequence of Keller's theorem (cf. [3] or [7]) that there are ω many homeomorphism classes of weakly compact convex subsets of $\ell_2(\omega)$, one for each dimension, ranging from 0 to ω .

The big family of nonhomeomorphic sets will be parametrized by a family of trees. By a tree we mean a partially ordered set such that every initial segment is well ordered and which has moreover a minimum element, called the root of the tree. We shall write $s \parallel t$ meaning that s and t are comparable elements of a tree (i.e. either $s \leq t$ or $t \leq s$).

Given a tree T and an uncountable set Γ we consider the compact space $K[T, \Gamma] \subset 2^{T \times \Gamma}$ to be the set of all subsets $x \subset T \times \Gamma$ of cardinality at most 2 such that the first coordinates of elements of x are contained in a branch of T . The space $K[T, \Gamma]$ can be canonically viewed as weakly compact subset \tilde{K} of the Hilbert space $\ell_2(K[T \times \Gamma])$, by identifying the empty set with 0, every singleton $\{(t, \gamma)\} \in K[T, \Gamma]$ with the corresponding vector of the canonical euclidean base $e_{\{(t, \gamma)\}}$, and every

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doubleton $\{(t, \gamma), (t', \gamma')\} \in K[T, \Gamma]$ with the vector $e_{\{(t, \gamma), (t', \gamma')\}} + e_{\{(t, \gamma)\}} + e_{\{(t', \gamma')\}}$. Also, the convex hull of \tilde{K} is then canonically homeomorphic to the space of probability measures $P(K[T, \Gamma])$. Our plan is to exhibit, for every cardinal $\kappa > \omega$ a family of 2^κ many different trees $\{\Upsilon_\Lambda : \Lambda < 2^\kappa\}$ for which the corresponding spaces $P(K[\Upsilon_\Lambda, \kappa])$ are pairwise nonhomeomorphic.

2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we briefly describe the technique of fiber orders developed in [2]. We refer to this paper [2] for more detailed explanations.

Given a continuous surjection $f : K \longrightarrow L$ and $y \in L$, a preorder relation is defined on the fiber $f^{-1}(y)$ by setting $x \leq x'$ if for every neighborhood U of x there exists a neighborhood U' of x' such that $f(U') \subset f(U)$. We denote by $\mathbb{F}_y(f)$ the set $f^{-1}(y)$ endowed with this preorder relation and by $\mathbb{O}_y(f)$ the associated ordered set obtained from $\mathbb{F}_y(f)$ modulo the equivalence relation given by $x \sim x'$ whenever $x \leq x'$ and $x' \leq x$.

Given τ an uncountable regular cardinal and K a compact space with $\text{weight}(K) \geq \tau$, we consider $\mathcal{Q}_\tau(K)$ the set of all quotients of K of weight less than τ , endowed with its natural order: $(p_1 : K \longrightarrow L_1) \leq (p_2 : K \longrightarrow L_2)$ if and only if there is a continuous surjection $p_1^2 : L_1 \longrightarrow L_2$ such that $p_1^2 p_1 = p_2$. In this case, we call to the surjection $p_1^2 : L_1 \longrightarrow L_2$ the natural internal surjection between the two quotients. A subset $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{Q}_\tau(K)$ is called a τ -semilattice if the supremum of any family of less than τ many elements of \mathcal{S} is an element of \mathcal{S} , and \mathcal{S} is called cofinal if for every $L \in \mathcal{Q}_\tau(K)$ there exists $L' \in \mathcal{S}$ such that $L \leq L'$. A useful criterion is that a τ -semilattice \mathcal{S} is cofinal if and only if every two different points of K are separated by some quotient in \mathcal{S} .

Given a property \mathcal{P} , we say that the τ -typical surjection of K has property \mathcal{P} if there is a cofinal τ -semilattice $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{Q}_\tau$ such that all natural internal surjection between elements of \mathcal{S} have property \mathcal{P} , or equivalently if every cofinal τ -semilattice $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{Q}_\tau(K)$ contains a further cofinal τ -semilattice such that all natural internal surjections between elements of \mathcal{S}' have property \mathcal{P} .

In order to distinguish topologically two compact sets, we shall check that, for some uncountable regular cardinal τ , the τ -typical surjection of each one has fiber orders with different properties.

3. ANALYSIS OF THE FIBERS

Given $S \subset T$ trees, and $M \supset N$ infinite sets we consider the continuous surjection $g : K[T \times M] \longrightarrow K[S \times N]$ given by $g(x) = x \cap (S \times N)$ and its associated surjection between spaces of probability measures

$$f = P(g) : P(K[T \times M]) \longrightarrow P(K[S \times N]).$$

The τ -typical surjections in spaces $P(K[\Upsilon, \Gamma])$ will have this form, so in this section we shall analyze how the fiber orders of such a function f look like.

3.1. The fibers of g . . According to the method established in [2] for the computation of fiber orders in spaces of probability measures, the first step towards the computation of the fiber orders of $f = P(g)$ is the analysis of the fibers of g . For $y \in K[S \times N]$, there are three cases:

Case 1: If $|y| = 2$, then the fiber is trivial, $|g^{-1}(y)| = 1$.

Case 2: If $|y| = 1$, then there are two types of points in the fiber of y . On the one hand we have the same $y \in g^{-1}(y)$, around which g is locally open, so y is the minimum element of $\mathbb{F}_y(g)$. On the other hand, if we take any other point $x \in g^{-1}(y)$, then $|x| = 2$ and x is an isolated point, so it has a neighborhood whose image is $\{y\}$, hence all those elements are equivalent and maximum elements of the fiber. Hence, $\mathbb{O}_y(g) \cong \{0, 1\}$.

Case 3: Finally, for $y = 0$ we get the most interesting fiber. For $x \in g^{-1}(0)$ we have the following three possibilities:

- If $x = 0$, then g is locally open around x , so x is the minimum element of the fiber.
- If $|x| = 2$, then x is an isolated point, so x is a maximum element of the fiber.
- If $|x| = 1$, then $x = \{(t, \gamma)\} = [t, \gamma]$ is a singleton with $(t, \gamma) \in T \times M \setminus (S \times N)$. It happens then that the image of a basic neighborhood of x is a set of the form

$$\{0\} \cup \{[s, \delta] : (s, \delta) \in (S \times N) \setminus F, s \parallel t\}$$

where F is a finite set.

Thus $[t, \gamma] \leq [t', \gamma']$ iff $\{s \in S : s \parallel t\} \supset \{s \in S : s \parallel t'\}$.

In order to understand the structure of $\mathbb{O}_0(g)$, let us call $R = R(S, T)$ the family of all subsets of S of the form $\{s \in S : s \parallel t\}$ for some $t \in T$, ordered by reverse inclusion. This set is order isomorphic to the singletons of the fiber of 0, and the whole $\mathbb{O}_0(g)$ is obtained by adding one minimum and one maximum $\mathbb{O}_0(g) \cong \{-\infty\} \cup R \cup \{+\infty\}$.

3.2. The fibers of $P(g)$. . It follows from [2] that for a surjection between spaces of probability measures on scattered spaces of the form $f = P(g) : P(K) \longrightarrow P(L)$, and $\mu = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \delta_{y_i} \in P(L)$, $\lambda_i > 0$, we have that

$$\mathbb{O}_\mu(P(g)) \cong \prod_{i \in I} \mathbb{O}_{\delta_{y_i}}(P(g)),$$

where the product of ordered sets is endowed with the order $(x_i)_{i \in I} \leq (y_i)_{i \in I}$ if and only if $x_i \leq y_i$ for all $i \in I$. Moreover, the fiber orders corresponding to a Dirac

measure $\delta_y \in P(L)$ is computed using the structure of the fiber $g^{-1}(y)$, namely for $\nu, \nu' \in P(g)^{-1}(\delta_y)$, we have that $\nu \leq \nu'$ if and only if

$$\nu \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \leq \nu' \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$$

for every $x_1, \dots, x_n \in g^{-1}(y)$. The operation $\langle \cdot \rangle$ associates a subset of the fiber $g^{-1}(y)$ to every finite subset of $g^{-1}(y)$ and it is related to the fiber order. We shall not need here the definition nor the precise computation of this operation, it will be enough to take into account the following two basic properties of the $\langle \cdot \rangle$ operation:

(P.1) For every $x \in g^{-1}(y)$, $\langle x \rangle = \{z : z \geq x\}$.

(P.2) For every $x_1, \dots, x_n \in g^{-1}(y)$, $\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ is an upwards closed set, that is, if $z \in \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ and $z' \geq z$, then $z' \in \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$.

We concentrate now on our map $f = P(g) : P(K[T, M]) \longrightarrow P(K[S, N])$, and on the computation of the fiber orders $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_y}(f)$. From all the information above, there are already two cases where this computation is clear:

Case 1: For $|y| = 2$, $|\mathbb{O}_{\delta_y}(f)| = 1$.

Case 2: For $|y| = 1$, $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_y}(f) \cong [0, 1]$.

We devote the rest of this section to the third case, when $y = 0$. Remember that we obtained that $\mathbb{O}_0(g) \cong \hat{R} = \{-\infty\} \cup R \cup \{+\infty\}$, where R is the family of sets of the form $\{s \in S : t \parallel s\}$ for $t \in T$, ordered by reverse inclusion. According to the results mentioned above, $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$ can be described as the set of all functions $\nu : \hat{R} \longrightarrow [0, 1]$ with $\nu(\hat{R}) = 1$ and endowed with the order that $\nu \leq \nu'$ if and only if

$$\nu \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \leq \nu' \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$$

for every $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \hat{R}$ (here, for a set $A \subset \hat{R}$, $\nu(A)$ denotes $\sum_{a \in A} \nu(a)$).

We shall not give a complete description of what this ordered set $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$ is, but we shall get from this just some information which is relevant for us, namely about what we call linear walks on $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$.

Definition 1. Let O be an ordered set and $t \in O$.

- (1) An element $s \in O$ is called an immediate successor of t if $t < s$ and there is no $r \in O$ such that $t < r < s$. The set of immediate successors of t in O is called $imsuc_O(t)$.
- (2) An element $s \in O$ is called a linear successor of t if s is a maximal element of the set of all $x > t$ such that $\{y : t \leq y \leq x\}$ is linearly ordered. The set of linear successors of t in O is called $lisuc_O(t)$.

Definition 2. Let O be an ordered set and α an ordinal. A discrete walk of length α in O is a sequence $\{a_\beta : \beta < \alpha\} \subset O$ fulfilling the following conditions:

- (1) $a_0 = \min(O)$.
- (2) $a_{\beta+1}$ is an immediate successor of a_β , whenever $\beta + 1 < \alpha$.

- (3) $a_\beta = \sup\{a_\gamma : \gamma < \beta\}$ for every limit ordinal $\beta < \alpha$.

Definition 3. Let O be an ordered set and α an ordinal. A linear walk of length α in O is a sequence $\{a_\beta : \beta < \alpha\} \subset O$ fulfilling the following conditions:

- (1) $a_0 = \min(O)$,
- (2) $a_{\beta+1}$ is a linear successor of a_β , whenever $\beta + 1 < \alpha$.
- (3) $a_\beta = \sup\{a_\gamma : \gamma < \beta\}$ for every limit ordinal $\beta < \alpha$.

For every $t \in \hat{R}$, we consider $a[t] \in \mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$ given by $at = 1$ and $a[t](s) = 0$ for $s \neq t$.

Proposition 4. Let $X = \mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$, $\{a_\beta : \beta < \alpha\} \subset X$. The following are equivalent:

- (1) $\{a_\beta : \beta < \alpha\}$ is a linear walk on X .
- (2) There exists $\{t_\beta : \beta < \alpha\}$ a discrete walk on \hat{R} , such that $a_\beta = a[t_\beta]$ for every $\beta < \alpha$.

Proof: The statement of the proposition is a consequence of the two facts stated below. All along the proof, in order to show that $x \leq y$ in X we use property (P.2) of the operation $\langle \cdot \rangle$, so we check that $x(A) \leq y(A)$ for every upwards closed set $A \subset \hat{R}$. The other way around, to show that $x \not\leq y$ we use property (P.1), checking that there is $t \in \hat{R}$ such that $x\{s : s \geq t\} > y\{s : s \geq t\}$.

Fact 1: For $t \in \hat{R}$, the linear successors of $a[t]$ are exactly the elements of the form $a[s]$, for s immediate successor of t . *Proof:* First notice that if $y \leq x = a[t]$, then $y\{s : s \geq t\} \geq x\{s : s \geq t\} = 1$, so y is concentrated on the nodes of \hat{R} which are greater or equal than t . We claim that for $y > x$, the set $\{z : x \leq z \leq y\}$ is linearly ordered if and only if y is of the form

$$y = y_{s,\lambda} = \lambda a[s] + (1 - \lambda)a[t]$$

for some $\lambda > 0$ and some immediate successor s of t . Observe that these elements are ordered as $y_{s,\lambda} < y_{s',\lambda'}$ if and only if $s = s'$ and $\lambda < \lambda'$, and therefore Fact 1 follows from this claim. Assume that $y > x$ is not of the form $y_{s,\lambda}$, then either there is $p > t$ not immediate successor of t such that $y(t) = \lambda > 0$ or otherwise there are two immediate successors $s \neq s'$ of t with $y(s) = \mu > 0$ and $y(s') = \mu' > 0$. In the first case, we can find $t < p' < p$ and then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\lambda}{2}a[p] + (1 - \frac{\lambda}{2})a[t] & \text{ and} \\ \lambda a[p'] + (1 - \lambda)a[t] & \end{aligned}$$

are incomparable elements below y . In the second case,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu a[s] + (1 - \mu)a[t] & \text{ and} \\ \mu' a[s'] + (1 - \mu')a[t] & \end{aligned}$$

are incomparable elements below y . It remains to show that in fact a set of the form $\{z : x < z \leq y_{s,\lambda}\}$ is linearly ordered, but one can easily check that this set equals $\{y_{s,\mu} : \mu \leq \lambda\}$.

Fact 2: If $s \in \hat{R}$ and $I = \{t_\gamma : \gamma < \beta\}$ is an increasing sequence of elements of \hat{R} for some limit ordinal β , then $s = \sup\{t_\gamma : \gamma < \beta\}$ if and only if $a[s] = \sup\{a[t_\gamma] : \gamma < \beta\}$. *Proof:* If x is an upper bound of the set $\{a[t_\gamma] : \gamma < \beta\}$, then x is concentrated on the set of upper bounds of I because $x\{t : t \geq t_\gamma\} \geq a[t_\gamma]\{t : t \geq t_\gamma\} = 1$. This fact implies immediately that if $s = \sup(I)$, then $a[s] = \sup\{a[t_\gamma] : \gamma < \beta\}$. For the converse, suppose that x was not concentrated on the supremum of I , then $\lambda = x(u) > 0$ for some upper bound u of I which is not the supremum, which means that there is another upper bound v with $u \not\leq v$, and in this case $a[v]$ is an upper bound of $\{a[t_\gamma] : \gamma < \beta\}$ which is not greater than x . \square

An ordered set O is called irreducible if it is not isomorphic to any product of two ordered sets of cardinality greater than one. Recall that $r_0 = \{s \in S : s \parallel 0\}$ represents the minimum element of R , and hence the “second element” of \hat{R} .

Proposition 5. *The ordered set $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$ is irreducible.*

Proof: Suppose $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f) = X \times Y$. For every $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ consider the element $u_\lambda = \lambda a[r_0] + (1 - \lambda)a[-\infty]$.

Since $\{v : v \leq u_1\} = \{u_\lambda : \lambda \in [0, 1]\}$ is linearly ordered, only one of the two coordinates of u_1 in $X \times Y$ can be different from the minimum, say $u_1 = (0, y_1)$, and hence $u_\lambda = (0, y_\lambda)$, $y_\lambda \in Y$.

Notice that for every $v \in \mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$ different from the minimum, there exists $\lambda > 0$ with $v \geq u_\lambda$ (take $\lambda = 1 - v(-\infty)$). But if we consider an element of the form $(x, 0)$, there is no $u_\lambda = (0, y_\lambda)$ below this element except for $\lambda = 0$. It follows that $|X| = 1$. \square

Remember the result from [2] that we mentioned at the beginning, that $\mathbb{O}_\mu(P(g)) \cong \prod_{i \in I} \mathbb{O}_{\delta_{y_i}}(P(g))$, for $\mu = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \delta_{y_i} \in P(L)$, $\lambda_i > 0$. It follows now that there are exactly three types of fiber orders of f which are irreducible: isomorphic to a singleton, to the interval $[0, 1]$ or to the special ordered set $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$.

4. THE FAMILY OF COMPACT CONVEX SETS

For every ordinal α let Υ_α be a tree with the following properties:

- The root of Υ_α is the ordinal α .
- Υ_α is an ever branching tree, that is, every element has at least two immediate successors.
- The height of Υ_α equals $\omega \cdot \alpha$ (ordinal product, meaning concatenation of α many copies of the ordinal ω).
- Υ_α has a branch of length $\omega \cdot \alpha$.

- For every $\beta < \alpha$, the β -th level of Υ_α has cardinality $|\beta|$. In particular $|\Upsilon_\alpha| = \max(|\alpha|, \omega)$.
- Υ_α is a Hausdorff tree, that is, for every node t which is not an immediate successor, we have that $t = \sup\{s : s < t\}$.

Let now κ be an uncountable cardinal. To every subset $A \subset \kappa$ of cardinality κ we associate a tree Υ^A with the following properties:

- The set of immediate successors of the root 0 of Υ^A equals the set A .
- For every $\alpha \in A$, the subtree $\{t \in \Upsilon^A : t \geq \alpha\}$ equals the tree Υ_α .

Theorem 6. *If $A \neq B$, then $P(K[\Upsilon^A, \kappa])$ is not homeomorphic to $P(K[\Upsilon^B, \kappa])$.*

Proof: Let us assume that there exists $\delta \in A \setminus B$. Let τ be an uncountable regular cardinal such that $|\delta| < \tau \leq \kappa$. We shall find a difference between $P(K[\Upsilon^A, \kappa])$ and $P(K[\Upsilon^B, \kappa])$ by looking at the τ -typical surjection.

Let $C \in \{A, B\}$ and let \mathcal{F}_C be the family of all subtrees $T \subset \Upsilon^C$ such that:

$$(F.1) \quad |T| < \tau.$$

$$(F.2) \quad \text{If } \gamma \in C \text{ and } \gamma \leq \delta, \text{ then } \Upsilon_\gamma \subset T.$$

$$(F.3) \quad \text{If } \gamma \in C, \gamma > \delta, \text{ and } \Upsilon_\gamma \cap T \neq \emptyset, \text{ then the whole first } \omega \cdot (\delta + 1) \text{ levels of the tree } \Upsilon_\gamma \text{ are contained in } T.$$

The family of quotients of $P(K[\Upsilon^C, \kappa])$ of the form $P(K[T, M])$ with $T \in \mathcal{F}_C$ and M a subset of κ of cardinality less than τ constitutes a cofinal τ -semilattice in $\mathcal{Q}_\tau(P(K[\Upsilon^C, \kappa]))$. Here, $P(K[T, M])$ is viewed as quotient of $P(K[\Upsilon^C, \kappa])$ via the surjection

$$f = P(g) : P(K[\Upsilon^C, \kappa]) \longrightarrow P(K[T, M]),$$

where $g : K[\Upsilon^C, \kappa] \longrightarrow K[T, M]$ is given by $g(x) = x \cap (T \times M)$. The fact that this is a τ -semilattice follows from the fact that \mathcal{F}_C is closed under unions of less than τ many elements, and the fact that is cofinal (that is, it separate points) follows from the fact that $\Upsilon^C = \bigcup \mathcal{F}_C$.

Hence the τ -typical surjection of $P(K[\Upsilon^C, \kappa])$ is of the form studied in the previous sections, $f : P(K[T, M]) \longrightarrow P(K[S, N])$, with moreover $T, S \in \mathcal{F}_C$. We look at the only irreducible fiber order in this surjection which is not linearly ordered : $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$.

We say that two (discrete or linear) walks on an ordered set strongly intersect if the first three elements of the two walks are the same (notice that the first two elements of a discrete walk in \hat{R} are always $-\infty$ and r_0). The following two statements (a) and (b) establish the difference between $P(K[\Upsilon^A, \kappa])$ and $P(K[\Upsilon^B, \kappa])$.

- (a) In the only irreducible non linearly ordered fiber order of the τ -typical surjection of $P(K[\Upsilon^A, \kappa])$ there is a linear walk of length $\omega \cdot \delta$ which does not strongly intersect any walk of length $\omega \cdot (\delta + 1)$.
- (b) In the only irreducible non linearly ordered fiber order of the τ -typical surjection of $P(K[\Upsilon^B, \kappa])$, any linear walk of length $\omega \cdot \delta$ strongly intersects some linear walk of length $\omega \cdot (\delta + 1)$.

By Proposition 4, these statements about linear walks in $\mathbb{O}_{\delta_0}(f)$ are equivalent to the corresponding statements about discrete walks in $\hat{R} = R \cup \{-\infty, +\infty\}$. Recall that R is defined as the family of all subsets of S of the form $r_t = \{s \in S : s \parallel t\}$ for $t \in T$, endowed with the order reverse to inclusion. We need some information about the ordered set R :

- (R.1) First, recall that $r_0 = S$ is the minimum of R .
- (R.2) The set of immediate successors of r_0 in R equals $\{r_\gamma : \gamma \in S \cap \kappa\}$. Namely, if $t \not\geq \gamma$ for any $\gamma \in S \cap \kappa$, then since $T \in \mathcal{F}_C$, it follows that $r_t = \{0\}$ is the maximum of R .
We call $R_\gamma = \{r \in R : r \geq r_\gamma\}$ for every $\gamma \in S \cap \kappa$.
- (R.3) If $\gamma \in S \cap \kappa$ and $\gamma \leq \delta$, then R_γ is order isomorphic either to Υ_γ or to the result of adding one maximum element to Υ_γ . *Proof:* Let r_t be an element of R . If $\alpha \leq t$ for some $\alpha \in (S \cap \kappa) \setminus \{\gamma\}$, then $r_t \notin R_\gamma$ because $\alpha \in r_t \setminus r_\gamma$. Hence,

$$R_\gamma = \{r_t : t \geq \gamma\} \cup \{r_t : t \geq \alpha, \alpha \notin S \cap \kappa\}.$$

The righthandside of this union may be empty or consist of one element $\{0\}$ which is the maximum of R . The lefthandside equals $\{r_t : t \in \Upsilon_\gamma\}$. Since $\gamma \leq \delta$, $\Upsilon_\gamma \subset S$ and since Υ_γ is ever branching, the map $t \mapsto r_t$ is one-to-one and it is indeed an order isomorphism.

- (R.4) If $\gamma \in S \cap \kappa$, $\gamma > \delta$, then R_γ contains a discrete walk of length $\omega \cdot \gamma$. *Proof:* Since $S \in \mathcal{F}_C$, the whole $\omega \cdot (\gamma + 1)$ levels of Υ_γ are contained in S , and we can find $\{s_\beta : \beta < \omega \cdot (\gamma + 1)\}$ an initial segment of length $\omega \cdot (\gamma + 1)$ of Υ_γ contained in S . Again, because the tree Υ_γ is ever branching the map $\beta \mapsto r_{s_\beta}$ is one-to-one. Moreover, $\{r_{s_\beta} : \beta < \omega \cdot (\gamma + 1)\}$ is a discrete walk. If it was not a discrete walk, there should exist an element r_t different from all r_{s_β} 's and such that $r_{s_\alpha} < r_t < r_{s_\beta}$ for some $\alpha < \beta$. But clearly, in our situation, if $r_t < r_{s_\beta}$, then $t = r_{s_\alpha}$ for some $\alpha < \beta$.

In the case when $C = A$, due to (R.3) a branch of length $\omega \cdot \delta$ in Υ_δ induces, supplementing r_0 at the beginning, a discrete walk on R of length $\omega \cdot \delta$ which passes through r_δ . This walk cannot strongly intersect any walk of length $\omega \cdot (\delta + 1)$ because Υ_δ does not contain any segment of length greater than $\omega \cdot \delta$.

In the case when $C = B$, suppose we are given a walk of length $\omega \cdot \delta$. This walk cannot pass through any r_γ with $\gamma < \delta$ due to (R.3), since Υ_γ has height $\omega \cdot \gamma$. Since $\delta \notin B$, the walk must pass through r_γ for some $\gamma > \delta$. But then by (R.4)

there is a walk of length $\omega \cdot (\delta + 1)$ which also passes through r_γ , that is, it strongly intersects our given walk.

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